AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A connector comprising:

a tubular male joint member;

a liquid passage portion having a liquid passage space defined therein in fluid communication with an interior of said male joint member, said liquid passage space being of a shape preventing liquid from being trapped therein when the liquid flows in said liquid passage space;

a first female joint port and a second female joint port which are capable of receiving a tube;

a first valve body having a head and a neck interconnecting said head and said liquid passage portion, said neck being thinner than said head, said first valve body having a slit extending from a top surface of said head to said liquid passage space, said first valve body being made of an elastic material; **[[**and**]]**

a second valve body having a head and a neck interconnecting said head and said liquid passage portion, said neck being thinner than said head, said second valve body having a slit extending from a top surface of said head to said liquid passage space, said second valve body being made of an elastic material;

a straight portion which defines a part of said liquid passage space and connects an end of said slit of said first valve body and an end of said slit of said second valve body;

wherein when a tube is connected to said first female joint port, said first valve body is deformed to open the slit of said first valve body to bring an interior of the tube and an interior of said male joint member into fluid communication with each other through the slit of said first valve body and said liquid passage space; and

when a tube is connected to said second female joint port, said second valve body is deformed to open the slit of said second valve body to bring an interior of the tube and the interior of said male joint member into fluid communication with each other through the slit of said second valve body and said liquid passage space.

2. (Original) A connector according to claim 1, wherein said first female joint port or said second female joint port and said male joint member have respective central lines extending substantially parallel to each other.

3. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 1, wherein said liquid passage portion, said first valve body, and said second valve body are integrally formed with each other.

4. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said first female joint port and said second female joint port is movable in the direction of a central line thereof relatively to the corresponding valve body.

5. (Currently Amended) A connector comprising:

a tubular male joint member;

a liquid passage portion having a liquid passage space defined therein in fluid communication with an interior of said male joint member;

a first female joint port and a second female joint port which are capable of receiving a tube;

a first valve body disposed in said first female joint port and made of an elastic material, said first valve body having a slit; **[[**and**]]**

a second valve body disposed in said second female joint port and made of an elastic material, said second valve body having a slit;

a straight portion which defines a part of said liquid passage space and connects an end of said slit of said first valve body and an end of said slit of said second valve body;

the central line of said first female joint port and the central line of said second female joint port are skew lines;

wherein when a tube is connected to said first female joint port, said first valve body is deformed to open the slit of said first valve body to bring an interior of the tube and an interior of said male joint member into fluid communication with each other through the slit of said first valve body; and

when a tube is connected to said second female joint port, said second valve body is deformed to open the slit of said second valve body to bring an interior of the tube and the interior of said male joint member into fluid communication with each other through the slit of said second valve body.

6. (Original) A connector according to claim 5, wherein said first female joint port is movable in the direction of the central line thereof relatively to said first valve

body, and said second female joint port is movable in the direction of the central line thereof relatively to said second valve body.

7. – 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 2, wherein said liquid passage portion, said first valve body, and said second valve body are integrally formed with each other.

13. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 2, wherein at least one of said first female joint port and said second female joint port is movable in the direction of a central line thereof relatively to the corresponding valve body.

14. – 16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 5, wherein said fluid passage space is of a shape for preventing a liquid from being trapped therein when the liquid flows in said liquid passage space.

18. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 6, wherein said fluid passage space is of a shape for preventing a liquid from being trapped therein when the liquid flows in said liquid passage space.

19. – 23. (Canceled)

24. (New) A connector comprising:

a tubular male joint member;

a liquid passage portion having a liquid passage space defined therein in fluid communication with an interior of said male joint member;

a first female joint port and a second female joint port which are capable of receiving a tube;

a first valve body disposed in said first female joint port and made of an elastic material, said first valve body having a slit;

a second valve body disposed in said second female joint port and made of an elastic material, said second valve body having a slit;

the central line of said first female joint port and the central line of said second female joint port are skew lines with respect to each other;

wherein when a tube is connected to said first female joint port, said first valve body is deformed to open the slit of said first valve body to bring an interior of the tube and an interior of said male joint member into fluid communication with each other through the slit of said first valve body; and

when a tube is connected to said second female joint port, said second valve body is deformed to open the slit of said second valve body to bring an interior of the tube and the interior of said male joint member into fluid communication with each other through the slit of said second valve body.